

D

④ Reversine Drive was not built for heavy traffic use. Maiden was engineered for the Auburn Dam access road and this should be utilized.

E

⑤ The most important thing is fire protection!!! The dam construction area has become a pocket area because of all the department offices, subdivisions, construction of homes, & apartments that now rim the canyon. We are the first line of defense for fire. Increased activity in the canyon can only increase the possibility of fire coming up the canyon and into Auburn.

most users will not be living in this area and are unaware of their impact —

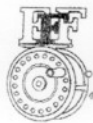
D. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.10, Project Access.

E. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.9, Fire Management.

11-13-2001 5:02PM FROM

L-212

P. 1



Federation of Fly Fishers
Conserving-Restoring-Educating Through Fly Fishing
Northern California Council
9270 Oak Leaf Way, Granite Bay, CA 95746
Phone (916) 791-6391 FAX (916) 791-6574

FAX

Date: November 13, 2001

Number of pages 3 (including cover sheet) :

To:

Bureau of Reclamation: Rod Hall
Surface Water Resources

Number:

989-7208
286-0957

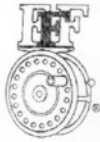
From: Rob Ferroggiaro

Subject: DEIR/S
PWCA Pump Staition

NOV-13-01 TUE 4:55 PM

9167916574

P. 1



FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS™
Conserving • Restoring • Educating Through Fly Fishing
 Northern California Council

November 13, 2001,

To: Bureau of Reclamation
 Surface Water Resources, Inc.

Via Facsimile
 (916) 989-7208
 (916) 286-0957

Subject: American River Pump Station Project - Draft EIR/EIS Comments

I am writing on behalf of the Northern California Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers (NCCFFF). NCCFFF represents over 30 affiliated angling clubs and thousands of anglers in Northern California. Our members are interested not only in fishing, but they are frequently involved in river and stream restoration projects.

We are not necessarily opposed to this project, however we believe that good science must be applied during the planning process to insure there is no negative impact to wild fish or to existing or planned fish recovery efforts. We offer the following comments on the above draft EIR/EIS:

A

1. There is documented evidence that wild steelhead have been found Auburn Ravine. The EIR/EIS should include a careful analysis of the current status of steelhead in the Ravine and should analyze possible flow regimes in light of the ESA listing of Central Valley steelhead.
2. Any change to flows should be evaluated regarding impact on native steelhead. Of particular concern is the potential to affect the "homing instincts" of the native fish as source water changes. Conclusions in this regard should be subject to scientific peer review.
3. The potential for attraction of steelhead not native to Auburn Ravine must be fully considered since ESA listed fish from other streams and rivers could be impacted.
4. The EIR/EIS should include more detailed documentation of consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, and consultation with California Department of Fish and Game's salmonid experts.
5. Should the project proceed, the project should include a monitoring plan to evaluate the effects of flow variations on native steelhead and supporting aquatic habitat and aquatic life.

Finally, this project was highlighted for us by concerned local citizens. The EIR/EIS availability notification and the report itself seem to ignore the activities of current groups involved in restoration and protection of Auburn Ravine. These include the Ophir Property Owners, and the Auburn Ravine/Coon Creek Watershed Group, or CRMP. The final EIR/EIS should include

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.13, Auburn Ravine.

11-13-2001 5:03PM FROM

P. 3

A

analysis of how this project supports or otherwise affects current restoration and protection efforts

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.



Robert N. Ferroggiaro
Vice President, Conservation
Federation of Fly Fishers - Northern California Council
9270 Oak Leaf Way
Granite Bay, CA 95746
(916) 791-6391 Tel
(916) 791-6574 Fax
Email rob@surewest.net

NOV-13-01 TUE 4:56 PM

9167916574

P. 3

L-213

MCCrowden@aol.com, 10:33 PM 11/13/01, Auburn to Cool trail

From: MCCrowden@aol.com
Date: Tue, 13 Nov 2001 22:33:33 EST
Subject: Auburn to Cool trail
To: brown@swri.net
X-Mailer: AOL 6.0 for Windows US sub 10539

November 13, 2001

American River Pump Station Project
Draft EIS/EIR Comments
Surface Water Resources, Inc.
2031 Howe Ave., Ste. 110
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Sirs:

I am concerned about the loss of the Auburn to Cool trail as a result of the closing of the tunnel at the Auburn dam construction site.

The Auburn to Cool trail provided the only safe route for mountain bicyclists to get between the towns. The only other route requires riding on at least 2 miles of hwy. 49 that has no shoulders and high traffic speeds.

I realize that the cost of a bridge would be large. I believe that a better lower cost alternative would be a new trail that goes from the dam overlook to either hwy. 49 at the river or Mt. Quarries bridge and then up to Cool.

I hope that mitigation for closing the existing trail would include all or partial funding for such a trail.

The completion of the pump station project will result in more people using the park. Additional long term funds are needed to manage the park as the number of visitors increase. Some funding source should be identified to do this.

Signed,

Colleen Crowden
MCCrowden@aol.com

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.

B. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.2, American River Pump Station Project Funding.

L-214



COMMENT CARD
PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY/U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

PCWA AMERICAN RIVER PUMP STATION AND RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

NAME:	CHAROLYN L. KEMHLER
ADDRESS:	29080 RIDGE VIEW RD
CITY/STATE/ZIP:	FORESTHILL, CA 95631
BUSINESS AND/OR HOME PHONE/FAX:	530-367-2180
ORGANIZATION (IF APPLICABLE):	

COMMENTS:

A We certainly applaud and appreciate the Bureau's choosing as its preferred alternative closing the diversion tunnel and restoring the North Fork American to its natural course at last. Also appreciated is the Bureau's recognition that the tunnel as it presently exists is an effective barrier to fish migration in a river once prodigious as a fishery. Nowhere, however, do we see who, if anyone, will be monitoring the newly-restored riverway for its effectiveness as a renewed fishery.

B Apparently there is no plan to replant aquatic vegetation lost in what now looks like a moonscape and what could end up just being a smoothed over shoreline of rock debris left over from the failed coffer dam of 1986. Mother nature may not be able to under these circumstances to repair riparian habitat quickly enough. Although the Bureau says it plans to replant those areas damaged by construction activities of the new project, nothing will be done about other denuded areas. We think appropriate replanting of these areas should be done as well.

C A primary concern is the extent to which PCWA's all-year pumping will dewater the river, especially in dry years. It is said that PCWA must allow a minimum flow of 75cfs. On completion of the project PCWA will double its outake from 50 to 100 cfs, and, as times goes on, take quite possibly more. After 100 cfs, the take-out controls seem quite murky. Many of us do not prefer swimming pools, golf courses, and new development over the health of our river. Who will monitor the take-out after project completion, and how will the public know? In dry years with lower flows water temps will increase and cold water fish will not survive. Who will monitor the fishery under these circumstances and be in a position to do something about it?

D As for requests to cross the river with a bridge or by some other means, we would vastly prefer that you not put in a shallow ford or any but minimal obstructions in the river.

It is not often thank goodness that a major public agency such as the Bureau is given the right to construct a coffer dam that fails, makes a huge mess, creates a public safety problem and mostly cuts off access for about 25 years and then gets 31 million dollars to clean it up. Never the less the Bureau has our full support in this effort.

The river is a public resource. The river is a public resource. We will be watching.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Charolyn L. Kemhler

☒ Please check here if you would like to be on the project mailing list.

A. The Proposed Project includes restoration of the river to the dewatered channel. Design considerations include creation of riffles and pools to provide more natural habitat conditions than currently exist at the site. Additionally the project includes installation of fish screens on the water supply intake structure. The fish screens are being designed in consultation with CDFG fish screen experts. CDFG will review and approve the final design and have the opportunity to inspect the facility during and after construction, prior to initiation of project operations. PCWA would ensure that the fish screen and pumping plant facilities are operated and maintained properly for acceptable fish screen performance. PCWA would submit quarterly fish screen operation/performance reports to CDFG for the first two years of operation of the project. Following the first two years, reports on the operation and performance of the fish screen would be supplied to CDFG upon request. This information is included in the Final EIS/EIR, Chapter 3.0, Section 3.5 Fish Resources and Aquatic Habitat and in the Mitigation Plan (Appendix D to the Final EIS/EIR). This information does not alter the conclusions presented in the Draft EIS/EIR. These design and operational considerations would result in an overall improvement of project area conditions for fish resources. No further mitigation is required.

B. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.5, Project Area River Restoration.

C. PCWA would reoperate Middle Fork American River Project water releases at Ralston Afterbay. Preliminary project design information for the Proposed Project indicates a minimum flow requirement of 175 cfs to meet both the minimum instream flow requirement for fish (as required by both SWRCB and FERC) and to ensure proper functioning of the pump station intake/diversion facility.

PCWA must operate the MFP and the pumping plant at the Auburn Dam site to satisfy the terms and conditions of their SWRCB water rights permits and their FERC license. Additionally, PCWA operates the MFP in accordance with their agreements with Reclamation (storage and release of American River water) and PG&E (operations for hydropower). Therefore, PCWA must keep records of reservoir releases and diversion intake amounts. This information is reported to the regulatory agencies as required by each permit, license, or agreement.

D. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.

L-215

November 12, 2001

American River Pump Station Project
Draft EIS/EIR Comments
Surface Water Resources, Inc.
2031 Howe Avenue, Suite 110
Sacramento, CA 95825

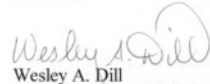
To Whom It May Concern:

A I would like to comment on the closure of the old dam construction tunnel and restoration of the original river channel. While I am in favor of this option, I am concerned for recreational users who utilize the dry land connection as a benefit of the diversion tunnel between the towns of Auburn, CA and Cool, CA. A significant number of equestrian, hikers, runners, and mountain bike enthusiasts utilize this dry land bridge to connect between these two recreational areas. With restoration of the original river channel, mountain bike enthusiasts in particular would be forced to utilize State Highway 49 to make this connection. The portion of Hwy 49 mountain bikers would be forced to utilize is very winding, steep, has many blind corners, no shoulder, and heavy vehicular traffic between the towns of Auburn and Cool. This would create a serious safety hazard for mountain bikers.

While the equestrian and runner community is in favor of building a bridge for recreational crossing in the area of the old dam site, this would be an expensive alternative to a better option. The best "bang for your buck" is to construct a new, multi-user trail that would follow the contours of the American River Canyon within the boundaries of the American River Recreational District. The trail would originate at the old Auburn Dam Overlook in Auburn, CA, travel upstream to the local No Hands Bridge, and then go downstream to terminate on the ridge above the old Auburn Dam site. This new ridge-to-ridge trail connection would add miles of badly needed trails, cost a fraction of what a new bridge would cost, and continue to provide the connection for all recreational users between Cool and Auburn.

This option would be cost effective, mitigate one of the significant effects of tunnel closure on recreational users, and enhance the recreation use within an area that is already of regional significance.

Sincerely,


Wesley A. Dill

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.

L-216



COMMENT CARD
PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY/U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

PCWA AMERICAN RIVER PUMP STATION AND RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

NAME:	EMILIE J. CARRIERE
ADDRESS:	1765 VISTA DEL MONTE
CITY/STATE/ZIP:	AUBURN, CA 95603
BUSINESS AND/OR HOME PHONE/FAX:	(530) 889-2212
ORGANIZATION (IF APPLICABLE):	CARRIERE + ASSOCIATES, INC
COMMENTS:	
<p>I would support this project if two changes are made.</p> <p>① Change the access from Maiden Drive to Pacific Avenue. Maiden Drive is a main thoroughfare for a major school. (Skyridge) overloading that street with tourists would be unsafe.</p> <p>In addition, Maiden drive is fully residential while Pacific is not. I realize that this may involve additional funds, but long term this would be an acceptable access.</p> <p>② I would need to see a very thorough fire prevention & fire patrol plan.</p> <p>otherwise the project appears to serve Placer County water needs + the river restoration, badly needed.</p>	

PLEASE USE THIS TO SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS ABOUT THE DRAFT EIS/EIR. YOU CAN SEND ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO:
DRAFT EIS/EIR COMMENTS, SURFACE WATER RESOURCES, INC., 2031 HOWE AVENUE, SUITE 110, SACRAMENTO, CA 95825
JUST FOLD THIS SELF-ADDRESSED SHEET INTO THIRDS, SEAL, STAMP, AND MAIL. THANK YOU.
☒ Please check here if you would like to be on the project mailing list.

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.10, Project Access and Master Response 3.1.6, Public River Access Features.

B. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.9, Fire Management.